Council Proceedings.

COUNCIL CHAMBER, December 5, 1884.

A special meeting of the City Council was held.

Present:—Mayor Hyman (in the chair), Ald. Birrell, Labatt, Beattie, Cowan, O'Meara, Skinner, Stringer, Scarrow, Niven, Becher.

Ald Becher submitted the report of the Committee on Amalgamation which was as follows:—

1.—Your Committee beg to report that they have so far been unable to negotiate with the residents of London South for annexation to the city.

2.--With respect to the annexation of London East, your Committee beg to report that they have been in negotiation with a Committee from the Council of that municipality and have agreed upon certain terms to be submitted to this Council for their approval, which terms are contained in the resolution attached.

3.—Your Committee recommend that this resolution be passed, and a copy of it sent to the Clerk of London East:—

Whereas, the Council of the City of London consider that amalgamation with the Town of London East would be an advantage to both municipalities;

Be it resolved:

That in consideration of the Council of London East passing the necessary resolution for the submission to the ratepayers of the question of amalgamation, and the ratepayers adopting a by-law confirming it, if this Council agrees that the following terms are settled as a part of the basis upon which the amalgamation shall be effected:

1. That in consideration of the Grand Trunk Railway Company establishing and maintaining within the limits of the amalgamated municipalities, or either of them, car-works or other shops, and giving employment therein to not less than nine hundred hands during the continuance of the exemption, an offer shall be made to the said company of exemption from taxation to the extent of $5,000 per annum for 10 years.

2. That during the period of five years from the date of amalgamation the proceeds of the rate levied upon property in London East for street improvements shall be expended in that municipality.

3. That for the period of five years from the date of amalgamation the increase of the rate of assessment of property in London East over that of 1884 shall be only in proportion to the amount required to furnish London East with such additional advantages as the Council of London East shall require when final terms are being settled.

4. That the charges relating to water-works to be paid by London East shall be the same as those paid by the city of London.

5. That all terms of amalgamation not agreed upon and settled by the two Councils before the proposed annexation is effected shall be determined by arbitration.

It was moved by Ald. Becher, seconded by Ald. Stringer, that the report be received and adopted.

In amendment, it was moved by Ald. Cowan, seconded by Ald. O'Meara, the report be taken up clause by clause.

The amendment was carried.

On clause 1,

In amendment Ald. Cowan moved that the following words be added, "that in the event of an amalgamation between the Grand Trunk and Canada Pacific railways this grant shall be null and void." Ald. O'Meara seconded.

The amendment was lost on the following division.

Yeas—Cowan, O'Meara—2

Nays—Birrell, Labatt, Beattie, Skinner, Stringer, Scarrow, Niven, Becher—8.

The clause adopted.

Clauses 2, 3, 4, 5 passed, and the report was adopted as a whole.

The Clerk was instructed to forward a copy of the resolution to the London East Council.

Mayor Lilley and Dr. Gardiner, of London East, who was present, were allowed to address the Council.

Mayor Lilley felt very thankful for the vote they had taken, and trusted that it would prove a benefit to the Corporation. He believed the time had come when all the suburbs should be amalgamated with the city. He spoke of the money that had been squandered foolishly in London East in the past, and concluded by saying that the Council had done honor to themselves and credit to the city by their vote.

Dr. Gardiner was strongly in favor of the amalgamation, for at present the city and suburbs were cutting one another's throats as fast as possible. He believed the terms were as favorable as they could expect as far as he had heard them. He hoped the terms would be such that the people could adopt them, and that in the future the mayor might be mayor of London city united.

Adjourned.